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(d) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence differing from the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 by deletion, substitution or addition of at least one or more amino acids, and having raffinose synthetic activity.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-7 are active in the present application.

Claims 1 and 6-7 have been amended.

The amendment of Claims 1 and 6 is supported by page 6, lines 10-15 and page 13, line 25 to page 15, line 1. The amendment of Claim 7 is supported by page 10, line 18 to page 13, line 24.

No new matter was added to the application by virtue of the present amendment.

Entry and favorable consideration of this amendment are respectfully requested.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

- Group I: Claims 1-4, drawn to a method for increasing stress resistance to a plant which comprises introducing into a plant a raffinose synthetase gene encoding a protein of SEQ ID NO:1;
- Group II: Claim 5, drawn to a method for increasing stress resistance to a plant which comprises increasing raffinose content in the plant body;
- Group III: Claim 6, drawn to a method for increasing stress resistance to a plant which comprises improving raffinose synthetic activity in the plant body; and
- Group IV: Claim 7, drawn to a method for increasing stress resistance to a plant which comprises excessively expressing in the plant body a protein of SEQ ID NO:1.

Applicants have elected Group II, Claim 5, with traverse.